



April 13, 2017

The Honorable Steve Glazer
State Capitol, Room 5108
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 651-4907

RE: SB 386 (Glazer): State beaches and parks: smoking ban
AAP-CA Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Glazer:

I am writing on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA), representing over 5,000 California pediatricians, to let you know that we strongly support your proposed legislation SB 386 (Glazer). This bill would ban smoking in state beaches and parks.

Tobacco and secondhand tobacco smoke are highly hazardous to the health of anyone, but especially to children. As stated in American Academy of Pediatrics policy, “There is no safe level of tobacco smoke exposure. The developing brains of children and adolescents are particularly vulnerable to the development of tobacco and nicotine dependence.” We should take every possible step to protect children and youth from exposure to tobacco or secondhand smoke, including the enactment of comprehensive smoking bans, which “prevents not only exposure of children to tobacco product emissions but also exposure to modeling of tobacco product use and nicotine consumption behavior” (“Public Policy to Protect Children from Tobacco, Nicotine, and Tobacco Smoke,” Pediatrics, Nov. 2015). These bans should apply to any location frequented by children, including outdoor spaces.

SB 386 (Glazer) would make sure that children who frequent state beaches and parks are not exposed to secondhand smoke or inadvertently encouraged to use tobacco by seeing adults doing the same. A reduction in littered cigarettes would also potentially reduce wildfires in state parks, thus improving air quality and benefiting children who suffer from asthma and other respiratory ailments.

Pediatricians across the state strongly support SB 386 (Glazer). We thank you for your leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Graff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nancy" written in a more legible script and the last name "Graff" in a more stylized, looped cursive.

Nancy Graff, M.D., Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics
State Government Affairs Committee, American Academy of Pediatrics, California

CC: Kris Calvin, CEO; AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne